

NEWS

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HIGHLIGHTS OF RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL, NC **NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY MARCH 2002**

Workers in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, North Carolina metropolitan area averaged \$19.97 per hour during March 2002, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin reported that white-collar workers averaged \$24.18 per hour and accounted for 63 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$14.18 per hour and represented 22 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$9.79 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 138 firms representing 243,200 workers in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill metropolitan area, which includes Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Johnston, Orange, and Wake Counties in North Carolina. Seventy-two percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for over 40 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, elementary school teachers averaged \$23.30 per hour; registered nurses, \$23.07; and teachers' aides, \$11.46. Blue-collar occupations included production supervisors earning \$24.95 per hour, packaging and filling machine operators at \$12.13, and stock handlers and baggers at \$10.02. In the service occupations, nursing aides, orderlies and attendants averaged \$9.77 per hour; and janitors and cleaners, \$7.93.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area averaged \$20.60 per hour and part-timers earned \$9.27. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$13.27 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$14.30. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$12.70 per hour, while those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$23.26.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an

occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgement, supervision received, and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC National Compensation Survey March 2002 (Bulletin 3115-24). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Atlanta Information Office by calling 404-331-3415. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm>. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Atlanta by dialing 404-331-3403 and requesting document 9535.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Atlanta Information Office at 404-331-3415 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC, March 2002

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$19.97	3.7	\$19.49	3.4	\$21.23	9.5
All excluding sales	19.90	3.8	19.36	3.4	21.24	9.5
White collar	24.18	4.1	24.71	3.2	23.14	10.6
White collar excluding sales	24.51	4.2	25.32	2.8	23.16	10.7
Professional specialty and technical	29.62	5.2	28.96	2.9	30.81	13.1
Professional specialty	32.42	5.7	31.30	3.1	34.40	13.8
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	34.27	5.3	35.80	4.5	—	—
Civil engineers	27.25	8.5	—	—	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	35.38	3.4	35.38	3.4	—	—
Computer systems analysts and scientists	35.42	3.6	35.42	3.6	—	—
Natural scientists	31.75	7.9	29.96	8.0	—	—
Chemists, except biochemists	30.61	10.9	30.72	10.9	—	—
Medical scientists	31.33	14.3	—	—	—	—
Health related	21.32	5.4	21.44	6.4	20.88	9.5
Registered nurses	23.07	2.7	23.74	2.9	20.91	5.8
Teachers, college and university	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	23.15	2.2	—	—	23.29	1.2
Elementary school teachers	23.30	1.4	—	—	23.30	1.4
Librarians, archivists, and curators	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners	28.38	7.2	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	15.59	4.3	—	—	16.03	4.6
Social workers	15.59	4.3	—	—	16.03	4.6
Lawyers and judges	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	24.22	10.6	24.22	10.6	—	—
Technical	20.13	6.2	21.07	6.0	18.43	14.4
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	17.82	7.2	18.01	11.1	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	18.71	13.6	—	—	—	—
Computer programmers	29.19	7.3	28.72	10.6	—	—
Technical and related, n.e.c.	13.33	10.6	—	—	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	32.94	6.1	34.43	7.3	28.67	8.7
Executives, administrators, and managers	41.30	7.0	44.05	8.5	33.65	3.8
Administrators and officials, public administration	33.50	10.8	—	—	33.50	10.8
Financial managers	33.13	6.0	—	—	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	44.31	9.4	44.83	10.0	—	—
Management related	24.02	4.4	24.33	5.7	23.13	4.6
Accountants and auditors	29.12	3.5	—	—	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	23.17	3.9	—	—	—	—
Management related, n.e.c.	19.33	8.1	—	—	—	—
Sales	20.99	16.2	21.03	16.4	—	—
Sales workers, other commodities	15.87	32.4	15.87	32.4	—	—
Cashiers	8.04	5.1	7.78	4.1	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	13.30	1.9	14.09	2.7	12.31	2.1
Secretaries	15.58	4.0	15.68	4.6	15.02	6.3
Order clerks	15.70	17.2	15.70	17.2	—	—
Records clerks, n.e.c.	13.33	5.2	—	—	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	13.49	4.6	13.36	4.8	—	—
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	12.85	3.6	12.85	3.6	—	—
General office clerks	12.71	2.8	14.47	5.8	12.16	2.6
Teachers' aides	11.46	1.5	—	—	11.46	1.5
Administrative support, n.e.c.	14.74	6.3	14.81	6.5	—	—
Blue collar	14.18	3.7	14.15	4.1	14.44	5.4
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.05	3.6	18.48	4.1	16.20	2.4
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	16.99	5.7	17.23	6.0	—	—
Supervisors, production	24.95	5.9	24.95	5.9	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	12.33	5.5	12.37	5.6	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators	12.13	5.4	12.13	5.4	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC, March 2002 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Blue collar —Continued						
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors						
—Continued						
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	\$14.37	13.0	\$14.37	13.0	—	—
Assemblers	9.96	7.5	9.96	7.5	—	—
Transportation and material moving	12.63	12.2	12.75	13.8	—	—
Truck drivers	14.43	21.3	14.43	21.3	—	—
Driver-sales workers	15.08	18.4	15.08	18.4	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.61	4.2	10.60	4.6	\$10.70	6.1
Stock handlers and baggers	10.02	7.5	10.18	8.1	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c.	12.98	7.4	12.98	7.4	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	9.11	5.8	8.93	5.6	—	—
Service	9.79	4.0	8.77	4.0	13.17	7.3
Protective service	12.74	9.9	9.38	7.5	16.14	8.0
Supervisors, police and detectives	26.89	6.9	—	—	26.89	6.9
Police and detectives, public service	18.31	8.0	—	—	18.31	8.0
Guards and police, except public service	9.95	8.3	9.38	7.5	—	—
Food service	8.63	5.9	8.71	6.7	—	—
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	4.96	21.2	4.96	21.2	—	—
Other food service	9.38	7.4	9.61	8.4	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation	9.18	10.5	9.38	12.6	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c.	8.70	5.9	8.96	7.0	—	—
Health service	10.09	2.9	—	—	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	9.77	3.5	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and building service	7.96	5.2	7.89	5.4	9.11	5.6
Janitors and cleaners	7.93	5.9	7.84	6.2	9.11	5.6
Personal service	12.05	13.3	—	—	13.62	10.7

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC, March 2002

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$20.60	\$9.27	\$14.40	\$20.20	\$19.84	\$23.49
All excluding sales	20.48	9.46	14.40	20.15	19.90	20.10
White collar	24.46	13.18	—	24.19	24.14	24.93
White-collar excluding sales	24.64	16.79	—	24.53	24.51	—
Professional specialty and technical	29.80	21.00	—	29.64	29.62	—
Professional specialty	32.69	21.28	—	32.48	32.42	—
Technical	20.15	—	—	20.13	20.13	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	32.94	—	—	32.94	33.06	—
Sales	22.58	7.76	—	20.99	18.22	24.98
Administrative support, including clerical	13.37	9.61	—	13.25	13.31	—
Blue collar	14.50	8.61	13.27	14.30	14.02	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.05	—	18.97	18.02	18.01	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	12.33	—	11.25	12.59	12.33	—
Transportation and material moving	14.72	—	—	11.65	12.06	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.70	9.53	11.83	10.33	10.61	—
Service	10.43	7.27	—	9.74	9.79	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	3.7	9.0	9.1	3.8	3.7	24.3
All excluding sales	3.7	10.0	9.1	3.9	3.8	6.7
White collar	4.1	14.5	—	4.1	4.1	27.3
White-collar excluding sales	4.2	13.5	—	4.2	4.2	—
Professional specialty and technical	5.3	9.7	—	5.3	5.2	—
Professional specialty	5.8	10.0	—	5.8	5.7	—
Technical	6.3	—	—	6.2	6.2	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	6.1	—	—	6.1	6.3	—
Sales	16.9	2.8	—	16.2	11.0	30.8
Administrative support, including clerical	1.9	5.8	—	1.9	1.9	—
Blue collar	3.7	12.5	7.3	4.1	3.9	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.6	—	10.9	3.7	3.8	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	5.5	—	5.4	6.6	5.5	—
Transportation and material moving	10.7	—	—	11.7	13.1	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	4.6	9.7	6.0	4.9	4.2	—
Service	4.5	4.3	—	4.2	4.0	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

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Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC, March 2002

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations	\$19.49	\$12.70	\$21.47	\$19.05	\$23.26
All excluding sales	19.36	12.91	21.13	18.04	23.07
White collar	24.71	17.13	25.67	24.75	26.14
White-collar excluding sales	25.32	21.40	25.64	24.87	25.92
Professional specialty and technical	28.96	26.54	29.13	28.73	29.25
Professional specialty	31.30	26.85	31.70	30.34	32.19
Technical	21.07	—	21.11	20.05	21.30
Executive, administrative, and managerial	34.43	27.11	34.95	35.66	34.71
Sales	21.03	11.13	25.92	24.46	—
Administrative support, including clerical	14.09	13.51	14.16	14.75	13.89
Blue collar	14.15	13.34	14.50	14.39	14.66
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.48	17.25	19.21	19.51	18.84
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	12.37	10.92	12.77	12.80	12.73
Transportation and material moving	12.75	—	13.20	13.33	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.60	9.81	11.06	9.84	12.03
Service	8.77	8.15	9.46	8.49	—
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	3.4	7.9	3.3	6.3	3.4
All excluding sales	3.4	8.9	3.3	6.5	3.4
White collar	3.2	13.7	3.0	5.9	3.3
White-collar excluding sales	2.8	12.2	2.8	5.4	3.3
Professional specialty and technical	2.9	15.7	2.9	8.2	2.9
Professional specialty	3.1	15.7	3.1	8.9	3.0
Technical	6.0	—	6.1	11.5	6.9
Executive, administrative, and managerial	7.3	13.3	7.7	8.6	10.0
Sales	16.4	8.2	15.7	16.9	—
Administrative support, including clerical	2.7	8.6	2.9	6.3	2.8
Blue collar	4.1	8.6	4.7	7.0	5.7
Precision production, craft, and repair	4.1	9.2	3.7	6.0	3.7
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	5.6	8.5	6.2	9.8	4.8
Transportation and material moving	13.8	—	16.6	17.3	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	4.6	5.0	6.8	4.4	11.8
Service	4.0	5.9	5.0	5.5	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

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